

Radio H.F. Internet Newsletter

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December 2011

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Welcome to the December 2011 edition of the Radio H.F. Internet Newsletter.

Bienvenue a l'édition de decembre 2011 de "Radio H.F. Internet Newsletter".

Sheldon Harvey

Owner, Radio H.F.

Editor/Publisher, Radio H.F. Internet Newsletter

RADIO H.F.

Canada's specialist in shortwave, scanning, amateur radio, antennas, accessories and publications since 1995, brings this newsletter to you, free of charge. Contact Radio H.F. at:

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HOURS OF OPERATION:

Monday to Saturday, 10 AM to 5 PM (Eastern)

CLOSED Sunday

Please note that Radio HF does not operate a storefront. It is a mail-order and on-line business. Radio HF also participates in numerous amateur radio fleamarkets and hamfests in Quebec and eastern Ontario every year. For a list of upcoming events please see the Hamfest & Fleamarket Zone in this Newsletter.

VISA, MASTERCARD AND PAYPAL ACCEPTED

RADIO HF GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE (IDEAL FOR CHRISTMAS!)

THE RADIO H.F. INTERNET NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 13 NUMBER 012 DECEMBER/DECEMBRE 2011

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Greenfield Park, Quebec, Canada

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E-MAIL: hfnewsletter@...

Please visit the Radio HF web page at: <http://www.radiohf.ca>

Previous issues of this newsletter, from February 1999 to April 2005, may be found at the following URL:

<http://www.cidx.ca/radiohf/index.html>

Subsequent editions, including the most recent, may be found at:
THE RADIO H.F. INTERNET NEWSLETTER YAHOO GROUP
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/hfnewsletter/>

Radio HF subscribers are encouraged to send along your favourite web sites for inclusion in future editions of this free newsletter. All contributors whose sites are used in the Radio H.F. Internet Newsletter will receive a 2% discount on their next purchase from Radio H.F. The e-mail address for all contributions, comments, and subscription requests for the Newsletter is:

hfnewsletter@...

DISCLAIMER: The contents of web sites featured in this newsletter are web site. They do not necessarily represent those of the editor, or the contributor, unless specifically noted.

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Welcome to the December 2011 edition of the Radio HF Internet Newsletter, the final edition of our 13th year of publication. Lots going on around here so, again, I'm a little behind schedule getting this out to you this month.

I'm sure you're all actively involved in getting your shopping done and making final arrangements for upcoming holiday celebrations. It's always a fun but very hectic time of the year. We've been very fortunate on the weather front so far into December here in the Montreal area with only one snowfall of any significance to this point and that quickly disappeared as the temperature has been substantially above normal for these parts at this time of the year. Everyone (almost) is hoping for a white Christmas at least. Personally I could live without it!

Before I forget, I have a special Christmas gift for all of you. Please check out the first listing in the Fun and Services Zone. It's a little Christmas related video that, I promise, you are going to absolutely hate me for passing along to you!

Our Monthly Special Zone for December features information on Human Rights Day, the Universal Hour of Peace and, of course, the annual December holidays of Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa.

This month's virtual voyage around the world, in the "Where in the World Zone", takes us to the Arab world. Officially called the Sultanate of Oman, it is an Arab state in southwest Asia on the southeast coast of the Arabian Peninsula. It is bordered by the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to the northwest, Saudi Arabia to the west, and Yemen to the southwest. The coast is formed by the Arabian Sea on the southeast and the Gulf of Oman on the northeast. The Madha and Musandam enclaves are surrounded by the UAE on their land borders, with the Strait of Hormuz and Gulf of Oman forming Musandam's coastal boundaries.

Input into this free monthly Newsletter from our subscribers continues at a record low pace. It's almost time for New Years Resolutions. Why not pledge to send in a web link to the Newsletter at least a couple of times during 2012?

Best wishes to you, your family and friends. Have a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

OK, let's get 2011 wrapped up.

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None this month

THE CONTRIBUTORS ZONE

Thank you to this month's 3 contributors. It's getting very lonely around here! I don't know how many other creative ways I can ask for your input to this Newsletter. I was always told it was better to give than to receive but, please, how about meeting me halfway? Just a site or two of interest from just a few of you each month can easily double the content here each month. Thanks.

Larry Dolan, Pierrefonds, Quebec

Steve Francis, Alcoa, Tennessee

Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

THE MONTHLY SPECIAL ZONE

UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

<http://www.un.org/en/events/humanrightsday/2011/>

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) was adopted on 10 December 1948. The date has since served to mark Human Rights Day worldwide. The High Commissioner for Human Rights, as the main UN rights official, and her Office play a major role in coordinating efforts for the yearly observance of Human Rights Day.

CHABAD.ORG'S CHANUKAH PAGE

http://www.chabad.org/holidays/chanukah/default_cdo/jewish/Hanukkah.htm

Learn all about the annual Jewish celebration.

HISTORY.COM'S CHRISTMAS

<http://www.history.com/topics/christmas>

For a classy look at the various aspects of Christmas check out The History Channel's webpage dedicated to Christmas

NORTH POLE.COM

<http://www.northpole.com/>

A great Christmas page for kids of all ages.

NORAD SANTA

<http://www.noradsanta.org/en/>

One of the most widely visited sites on the Internet each year is this NORAD site that follows the path of Santa as he makes his annual journey around the world. Check in early on Christmas Eve as this site often overloads with traffic.

THE OFFICIAL KWANZAA WEBPAGE

<http://www.officialkwanzaawebsite.org/index.shtml>

A celebration of family, community and culture

THE UNIVERSAL HOUR OF PEACE

<http://www.peacedome.org/UniversalPeaceCovenant/UniversalHourPeace/UHPStory.html>

The vision of the Universal Hour of Peace to unite all people of the Earth toward a common pursuit of peace of mind was motivating and inspiring.

THE DECEMBER ZONE

Each month we feature the monthly page from Wikipedia, the free, on-line encyclopedia. The page features an overview of the month, plus background and general information on the month itself. The actual monthly calendar, clickable day by day, gives a list of special events in history, famous birthdays, anniversaries, etc. for each day. Here is the link for the month of December.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/December>

Also, here are some special days and events in December.

WEEKLY CELEBRATIONS

1017 Human Rights Week

SPECIAL DAYS

7 National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
10 Human Rights Day
10 United Nations: Humans Rights Day
11 United Nations: UNICEF Established: 65th Anniversary
18 United Nations: International Migrants Day
20 United Nations International Human Solidarity Day
20 - Hannukah
24 Christmas Eve
25 Christmas
26- Kwanzaa (December 26 to January 1)
31 New Year's Eve
31 Universal Hour of Peace (11:30 p.m. Dec. 31 to 12:30 a.m. Jan. 1)

Source: Chase's Calendar of Events 2011

2011 National Health Observances, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

2011 Calendar of Events, California Department of Education

2011 United Nations Observances

2011 Bizarre, Crazy, Silly Unknown Holidays and Observances

VIA

http://ucanr.org/sites/Spanish/Calendario/December_2011/

RADIO H.F. PUBLICITY ZONE #1

ULTIMAX ANTENNAS

A newsletter subscriber recently contacted me regarding an amateur radio antenna company that he had located in Ocala, Florida called Ultimax Antennas.

The company specializes in manufacturing unique antennas designed especially for those with space restrictions. These are basically various types of wire antennas such as the popular end-fed and bazooka models, featuring models for various bands in various lengths.

Their website, in addition to providing photos of their various products, also offers YouTube video presentations of their products.

Please review these unique products. If there is sufficient interest, particularly here in Canada, I hope to be able to work out a dealer agreement with Ultimax. Please visit their website at:

<http://www.ultimax-antennas.com/index.html>

WHERE IN THE WORLD ZONE THIS MONTH OMAN

C.I.A. WORLD FACTBOOK OMAN

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/mu.html>

WIKIPEDIA OMAN

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oman>

THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION'S PORTAL TO OMAN

<http://www.omanet.om/flash.html>

(In Arabic and English)

THE OMAN STUDIES CENTRE

<http://www.oman.org/>

Information site for documentation and research on Oman and the Arabian Gulf

THE OMAN MINISTRY OF TOURISM

<http://www.omantourism.gov.om/wps/portal/mot/tourism/oman/home>

The official government travel guide site to Oman

RADIO STATION WORLD OMAN

<http://radiostationworld.com/Locations/Oman/>

This is a listing of broadcasting organizations and radio stations in Oman.

OMAN RADIO AND TV

<http://www.oman-tv.gov.om/>

The website of the official Omani radio and television services in Arabic and English.

ONLINE NEWSPAPERS OMAN

<http://www.onlinenewspapers.com/oman.htm>

This is a listing of newspapers in Oman.

THE RADIO ZONE

FORMAT CHANGE ARCHIVE

<http://formatchange.com/>

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

A site dedicated to format changes? Why not; what's more historic than when something begins or ends? The Format Change Archive is your home for airchecks of the beginnings and endings of some of the most historic radio stations (and some you may never have heard).

RADIO STATION LETTERHEADS & QSL CARDS

http://uv201.com/Misc_Pages/letterheads_1.htm

VIA Steve Francis, Alcoa, Tennessee

Shown here are a variety of broadcast band radio station letterheads, brochures, reception verification cards ("QSL cards"), stamps, and related material from the mid 1920's through the late 1930's.

THE REVERSE TIME PAGE

<http://uv201.com/framepage1.htm>

VIA Steve Francis, Alcoa, Tennessee

This page created and maintained by Mike Schultz, features old radios, clocks, tubes, electrical gadgets, and things related, like advertising and promotional items, and old photographs. The contents are generally organized into the categories shown to the left.

THE LAUGHING POLICEMAN WIRELESS SOCIETY

<http://www.laughingpoliceman.com/index.htm>

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

Please take this page in the spirit in which it is presented! The Laughing Policeman Wireless Society is the ALTERNATIVE Radio Enthusiast's Club for radio amateurs, radio enthusiasts and radio hams. The premier club for wireless Telephony & Telegraphy offenders in the world today!

THE AMERICAN QRP CLUB

<http://www.amqrp.org/>

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

The American QRP Club was formed in June 2003, and later incorporated, as an organization of ham radio operating enthusiasts interested in low power operation - these types of hams are called QRPers. AmQRP provides online information, instruction, goods and services to the general QRP population for educational and enjoyment purposes.

INTERNATIONAL LORAN ASSOCIATION

<http://www.loran.org/>

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

The International Loran Association (ILA) advocates the use of enhanced or eLoran as a back-up for and complement to global navigation satellite systems (GNSS) in multiple navigation and timing applications as well as the integration of eLoran and GNSS systems to improve the safety and security of individuals and nations. The ILA fosters the international growth of

eLoran as the most complementary, only multimodal, and most cost effective backup to GNSS systems, and promotes coordination between nations and institutions to increase cooperative activities, to establish uniform standards, and to optimize benefits to all users.

RADIO H.F. BOOK REVIEW ZONE

EDITOR: T. J. "Skip" Arey

The ARRL Handbook for Radio Communications
2012 89th Edition (Book and CD)
ISBN# 978-0-87259-677-1
ARRL Order # 6672 - \$49.95 Canadian or U.S.

And

The ARRL Antenna Handbook
22nd Edition
ISBN: 9780-87259-694-8
ARRL Order # 6948 - \$49.95 Canadian or U.S.

My relationship with these two books goes all the way back to 1975 when I bought my first copies of the then current editions. As someone whose professional training was in the area of metaphysics and not physics, the Handbooks have taught me enough about radio and electronics that I have been able to move forward in our hobby and even actually work as a technician. For anyone short of a working BSEE, you will be hard pressed to find fault with the abundance of information these books provide. I've never had a practical radio related question that I could not answer with a quick trip to either of these two books.

The current editions are, as with each edition, expanded and improved. Now, both books include CD ROMs that not only include a complete version of the book but many value added features. If you are active radio hobbyists, you will want to put these books on your holiday wish list. If you know someone who is getting interested in the hobby, giving that person copies of these books will provide a sound foundation for future growth. I am living proof of that!

These publications are available from your favourite radio book dealer.

THE GENERAL ZONE

NEWSPAPER ARCHIVE

<http://www.newspaperarchive.com/Default.aspx>

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

Featuring billions of newspaper articles from historical newspaper archives around the U.S. and the world, NewspaperARCHIVE makes exploring history and genealogy easy and fun. Discover fascinating news in newspaper archives hundreds of years old - including obituaries, birth announcements, sports articles, comics, and more to fill in the details for the life stories you are interested in. All of our historical newspapers are full-page and fully searchable - try exploring above and discover your history today!

MASHABLE

<http://mashable.com/>

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

Mashable's mission is to empower and inspire people by spreading knowledge of social media and technology. Mashable is the largest independent news source dedicated to covering digital culture, social media and technology. Mashable's 20 million monthly unique visitors and 4 million social media followers have become one of the most engaged online news communities. Numerous studies and leading publications have declared Mashable the most influential online news outlet and a must-read site.

NINE PLANETS

<http://nineplanets.org/>

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

This website is an overview of the history, mythology, and current scientific knowledge of the planets, moons and other objects in our solar system. A Multimedia Tour of the Solar System: one star, eight planets, and more

RAILFAN NETWORK

<http://railfan.net/>

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

Given the scope of this webpage it appears that there are millions of people out there fascinated by trains! Maybe you're one of them?

THE MAD-SCI NETWORK

<http://www.madsci.org/>

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

The MadSci Network made its debut in September of 1995 as part of Washington University's Young Scientist Program, a student-run organization dedicating to improving science literacy among K-12 students in St. Louis. Since that time, the site has evolved into an interactive science teaching and community outreach tool, staffed and maintained by volunteer scientists and engineers from around the world. The MadSci Network fields questions in 26 different subjects, covering topics in astronomy, the biological sciences, chemistry, computer science, earth sciences, engineering, and physics. In 1999 alone, more than 900 scientists volunteered their time to answer more than 25,000 questions from K-12 students and the general public.

GLOBAL TREES CAMPAIGN

<http://www.globaltrees.org/>

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

The Global Trees Campaign exists to secure the future of the world's threatened tree species and their benefits for humans and the wider environment. A joint initiative between Fauna & Flora International (FFI) and Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI) the Global Trees Campaign is the only international campaign dedicated to saving threatened trees.

RADIO H.F. PUBLICITY ZONE #3

What is new in books & publications from the American Radio Relay League, the Radio Society of Great Britain, and other publishers?

Where Discovery Sparks Imagination --A Pictorial History of Radio and Electricity by John D. Jenkins

Where Discovery Sparks Imagination examines the early history of radio and electricity, presented via a marvelous collection of over 600 photographs of actual apparatus, many of which have never before been published. Beginning with the rise of electricity in the 17th century, this one-of-a-kind book follows a continuous thread of discovery and invention through electric motors, electric light, the telegraph, telephone and ultimately radio. A great way to immerse yourself in one of the greatest collections ever assembled. Anyone who appreciates the amazing workmanship and artistry of old technology will love this book!

Product Details

Hardcover: 224 pages

Publisher: The American Museum of Radio and Electricity; (May 2009)

ISBN: 978-0-9794569-0-9

Limited-Time Offer from ARRL. Shipping Early December!
Order No: 1660 Price: \$34.95 Canadian or U.S.

Radio Amateur Callbook CD-ROM (2012)

Published since 1920. More than 1,600,000 licensed radio amateurs! Includes United States and International call sign listings covering more than 250 countries, islands and dependencies.

Multilingual: English, Spanish, German and French selectable

Runs directly from CD-ROM, no installation needed

More than 1,600,000 Amateur Radio call signs

More than 60,000 QSL manager listings

Includes Amateur Radio prefix maps

Winter 2012 edition. 2012, by Radio Amateur Callbook.

Order No: 3683 Price: \$49.95 Canadian or U.S.

2012 ARRL Calendar

Deluxe 13-month Wall Calendar!

Product Details

Softcover 29 pages:

Publisher: The American Radio Relay League, Inc.; (September 2011)

ISBN: 978-0-87259-629-0

Order No.: 6290 Price: \$12.95 Canadian or U.S.

Please visit the Radio HF webpage at

<http://www.radiohf.ca/publications.htm> for a complete catalog of all books, publications and CD-Roms available from the ARRL, RSGB and other popular publishers and authors.

THE FUN & SERVICES ZONE

HARDROCK, COCO & JOE

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NT50hg17eTM>

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

An annual Christmas tradition of mine has been to implant this 1950's vignette into your sub-conscious! This little clip about a very bizarre looking Santa and his three "dwarf" helpers (note they are not called elves), and the songyes, the song that will undoubtedly stick in your head and eventually drive you insane! Pass this along to your friends, or better still, your enemies. They will be cursing you for the next few months at least!

THE ANOMALOCARIS HOMEPAGE

<http://www.trilobites.info/anohome.html>

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

Welcome to the world of giant Cambrian predators! A story in Yahoo yesterday reporting on the discovery of the unique fossilized eyes of this prehistoric predator tempted me to track down more information on this incredible creature. Read on and learn.

FIND A DEATH

<http://www.findadeath.com/>

VIA Larry Dolan, Pierrefonds, Quebec

This site is all about celebrity deaths. Webmaster Scott Michaels is fascinated by celebrity deaths and on this page he has compiled information and photographs on the deaths of many famous people. Somewhat grim but always fascinating material.

THE 2012 HAMFEST/FLEAMARKET ZONE

Each month we list upcoming events, including hamfests, predominantly in Canada. NOTE: All times quoted are local. This list is compiled by Radio Amateurs of Canada, and other sources.

Events are wrapped up for 2011. Watch this space in the January 2012 Newsletter for information on the first amateur radio events of the New Year.

RADIO H.F. PUBLICITY ZONE #4

RADIO HF GIFT CERTIFICATES

Gift certificates are a great idea if you're not sure what that special person is looking for. Radio HF is offering gift certificates available in any denomination. Please contact Radio HF for details.

RADIO H.F. NATURE BOOKS DIVISION

The Radio H.F. Nature Division offers hundreds of specialty books in the fields of birding, animals, plants, etc. A complete listing of the titles is available on the new Radio H.F. web page at <http://www.radiohf.ca>. Simply click on the Canada goose!

THE RESOURCES ZONE

The following is a listing of clubs, groups, radio broadcasts and other resources that may be of interest to you.

THE CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DX CLUB (CIDX)

CIDX is Canada's national radio monitoring club, serving radio hobbyists since 1962 and celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2012. Our monthly electronic newsletter, MESSENGER, covers all aspects of the radio monitoring hobby as well as amateur radio coverage.

SPECIAL OFFER: To all Radio HF Internet Newsletter subscribers, a FREE sample of our monthly CIDX electronic newsletter, MESSENGER, (in .PDF format) is available to you for the asking. Just send along an e-mail to cidxclub@..., with a valid return e-mail address and you'll receive your copy. Our December 2011 edition is now available. Membership, at the low cost of \$10 per year, is open to radio hobbyists worldwide.

Please visit the CIDX web page at <http://www.cidx.ca>

PRIME TIME SHORTWAVE

Prime Time Shortwave is a listing of English shortwave broadcast that are updated frequently by webmasters Daniel Sampson and by database administrator Ernest Riley. The schedules are constantly updated from various print and internet sources as well as from monitoring by the webmaster and other shortwave listeners and DXers. The shortwave schedules are available by time, country and frequency format. Also, they are available in ASCII, Dbase and Excel. You will also find links to some of the best radio related websites and to the international broadcasters and time conversion charts (some provided by Craig Braun). Please visit the Prime Time Shortwave webpage at

<http://www.primetimeshortwave.com/>

THE INTERNATIONAL RADIO REPORT

The International Radio Report, celebrating its 24th anniversary on CKUT-FM, 90.3 FM in Montreal later this month, is available via the Internet live streaming, and on the airwaves of CKUT, Sunday mornings at 10:30 AM Eastern (1530 UTC). The show's co-hosts, Janice Laws and Sheldon Harvey, present a weekly half-hour of news, information and developments in radio broadcasting.

Visit the CKUT web page for full CKUT programming details.

<http://www.ckut.ca>

The International Radio Report is also rebroadcast on shortwave each week on Area 51 on WBCQ-The Planet, Sundays at 10:30 PM Eastern (0330 Monday UTC) on 5110 kHz. You may also listen to archived editions of the programme through the CKUT web site. Send your comments or questions to the International Radio Report, by e-mail, to radioreport@...

RADIO CANADA INTERNATIONAL

RCI's schedules for the Winter11-12 broadcast season (30 October 2011 to 25 March 2012) have been posted on the "Schedules and Frequencies" page of the RCI website at the following address:

<http://www.rcinet.ca/english/schedule/>

You will find our shortwave broadcast schedules, and also the schedules for 24-hour per day satellite channels on the HotBird satellite (Europe/North Africa/Middle East). Stay in touch with Canada via Radio Canada International.

That is all for this month. Radio H.F. is a mail order, telephone and on line business, with great products, great prices, and personalized service, serving the radio community since 1995. Be sure to visit the Radio H.F. web site at

<http://www.radiohf.ca>

Please feel free to submit any information for the Newsletter by e-mail to hfnewsletter@...

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HOURS OF OPERATION:

Monday to Saturday, 10 AM to 5 PM (Eastern)
CLOSED Sunday

Best wishes and 73 from

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